

### Abstract

A method for preparing a product of a protein and carotenoid. The carotenoid is added to a solvent. A source of metal ions and a source of proteins is added. The protein and carotenoid product is extracted from the solution in order to demonstrate binding of the lutein to the proteins. The protein and carotenoid product is substantially soluble in water and increases the ability to add the carotenoid to water-based systems, such as foods, beverages, and personal care products. The protein and carotenoid products are particularly suited for use in human supplements where it is desired to add both the protein and the carotenoid to the diet.